

## SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE NEWS FOR SUNDAY 6 MARCH 2022

Good morning and welcome to the weekly news bulletin of the South African Radio League read by ..... [your name, call sign and QTH]

The South African Radio League broadcasts a news bulletin each Sunday in Afrikaans and English at 08:15 and 08:30 Central African Time respectively on HF and various VHF and UHF repeaters around the country. The bulletin is relayed on Echolink by Johan, ZS6JPL. The audio bulletins can be downloaded from the League website at <http://www.sarl.org.za%C2%A0> while the text bulletin can be downloaded from <https://sarlnewsbulletin.wordpress.com>. To join the MailChimp bulletin mailing list, send an e-mail to the SARL Secretary.

SARL News and Amateur Radio Today recordings. While the problems experienced by some members accessing the SARL web pages is being attended to, an additional channel is now available from this Sunday. To download the weekly SARL News audio recordings and to listen or download Amateur Radio Today log onto [www.amateurradio.org.za](http://www.amateurradio.org.za).

In the news today:

**THE SARL HAMNET 40 M CONTEST THIS AFTERNOON**

**THE RESULT OF THE ELECTRONIC VOTING FOR THE SARL AFS**  
and

**THE 2022 SARL NATIONAL CONVENTION BOOKLET**

Stay tuned for more information on these and other interesting news items.

**THE SARL HAMNET 40 M CONTEST THIS AFTERNOON**

The popular SARL HAMNET 40 m contest takes place between 12:00 to 14:00 UTC today Sunday 6 March. This is a SSB contest in the 40 m band and is open to all Radio Amateurs in South Africa and neighbouring countries. Test your operator skill and station design to see how well you can do and where you can improve. There are various categories, antenna limitations and multipliers - but fortunately, everything you need to know about the contest is available on pages 68 and 69 of the 2022 SARL Blue Book. Weather permitting get outdoors and have fun.

**THE ALL AFRICA AWARD CHALLENGE**

Achieve your AAA by 30 September 2022 and stand a chance to win a SARL membership for one year - all call signs will go into a lucky draw. You can use CW, phone and digital modes - No FT modes.

**THE RESULT OF THE ELECTRONIC VOTING FOR THE SARL AFS**

The voting closed at 23:59 CAT on Thursday 3 March for the SARL Annual Financial Statements dated 30 June 2021. There are 1 648 SARL members who

can vote. Only 187 SARL members or 11,35% cast their votes. Votes in favour - 181. Votes against - 1. Abstentions - 5. The 2021 AFS is thus accepted. Thank you to those who voted.

#### THE SARL FIELD DAY

The first leg of the SARL Field Day takes place from 08:00 UTC on Saturday 12 March to 10:00 UTC on Sunday 13 March 2022 with phone and CW activity on 160 to 10 metres. The exchange is the number of transmitters at your station, the Field Day operating class you are participating in and the provincial or country abbreviation. Submit your log in ADIF or Cabrillo with a summary sheet or use the MS Excel log sheet and send it by 21:59 UTC on Friday 18 March to [contest@sarl.org.za](mailto:contest@sarl.org.za). Get all the information on page 64 to 67 of the 2022 Blue Book and remember that photo of amateur radio in action, it could end up on the cover of Radio ZS!

You are listening to a news bulletin of the South African Radio League.

#### THE RSGB COMMONWEALTH CONTEST

The 85th RSGB Commonwealth Contest will be on the air from 10:00 UTC on Saturday 12 March to 10:00 UTC on Sunday 13 March 2022 with CW activity on 80 to 10 metres. The exchange is an RST report plus a serial number starting at 1, HQ stations (e.g., ZS9HQ) additionally send 'HQ' which must be logged. Submit your log in Cabrillo format within 5 days following the end of the contest [www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl](http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl). Get the rules on page 80 to 82 of the March 2022 Radio ZS or visit [www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2021/rberu.shtml](http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2021/rberu.shtml).

#### THE 2022 SARL NATIONAL CONVENTION BOOKLET

The 2022 SARL National Convention Booklet is available for download from the front page of the SARL web site. The Booklet contains the programme for the Amateur Radio in the Digital Age Symposium on Saturday 9 April and the agenda for the SARL AGM on Saturday 23 April 2022. This includes the proposed budget and membership fees for 2022/2023, the two motions for discussion and a proposal to host the 2023 SARL National Convention.

#### FEEDBACK FROM THE SANDTON ARC

Gary, ZS6YI, together with Adi, ZS6CNC and Johan, ZS6KY, who had a live QO-100 station running during the Tech Talk, answered many questions and gave a really informative talk on the QO-100 satellite with all the lessons learnt on how best to setup your own station during the 23 February Power Hour Tech Talk. Did you know that the satellite has both Narrow Band and Wide Band transponders, that besides CW, SSB and digital modes that you can transmit and receive digital TV via the satellite, what its beacons are used for and that LEILA gets upset if you use more power than the beacons?

A big thank you to our special guests, those who offered to help others setup their stations and to all 28 local and international participants that let us know they were on frequency. The next Tech Talk will take place on Wednesday 30

March, with special guest, Stewart, ZR6WT, who will be giving us all the ins and outs on JS8Call, a really interactive and engaging weak signal digital mode. Visit the SARL upcoming events diary for details.

On 27 February the fox did its best not to be found, as the search area was large and the Fox's signal difficult to receive. This led the hunters to travel the roads searching high and low and when they finally got it and parked their cars, the fox then led them along a lovely river bank trail walk to its Den.

Thank you to all the hunters who came along and participated, and congratulations to the First to Find Hunter, who took home a super FTF trophy. We invite everyone to diarise the next hunt set for Saturday 26 March. Sources say this one will be a walk in the park. Will you be able to find the Fox? Once again, visit the SARL Upcoming Events diary for details.

#### THE RESULTS OF THE SARL 40 M CLUB CONTEST

Forty-five (45) logs were received for the 1st leg of the SARL Saturday 40 m Club Contest - 44 logs are included in the results, log no 45 is empty! The full set of results can be found in HF Happenings 985.

##### Club Scores

1st the West Rand ARC - 1 252 points

2nd the Bloemfontein ARC - 361 points

3rd the Northern Cape ARC - 358 points

##### Individual Scores

1st Michael, ZS4BHF - 181 points

2nd Jan, ZS4JAN - 180 points

3rd Kobus, ZS6BOS - 147 points

#### PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low to moderate levels. There are currently a couple of sunspots with simple to slightly complex magnetic configurations visible. There is a chance of C-class and a slight chance of M-class flaring. If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around 51. The 10 to 30 m bands will provide some good DX fun.

Please visit the website [spaceweather.sansa.org.za](http://spaceweather.sansa.org.za) for further information.

Finally, a diary of some upcoming events:

Today – the SARL Hamnet 40 m Contest and the ARRL International DX Phone Contest

8 March – International Women's Day

10 March – the closing date for the YL Logs  
11 March – the closing date for the Hamnet Logs  
12 and 13 March – the SARL Field Day and the RSGB Commonwealth Contest  
16 March – the SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Contest  
18 March – the closing date for the Field Day Logs  
19 and 20 March – the SARL VHF/UHF Analogue contest  
20 March – the Autumn Equinox at  
21 March – Human Rights Day and the Namibian Independence Day  
23 March – the Sandton Talking Tech Power Hour  
26 and 27 March – the CQ WPX SSB Contest  
27 March – the closing date for the VHF/UHF Analogue logs

To conclude our bulletin, a recap of our main news story:

The popular SARL HAMNET 40 m contest takes place between 12:00 to 14:00 UTC today Sunday 6 March. This is a SSB contest in the 40 m band and is open to all Radio Amateurs in South Africa and neighbouring countries.

This concludes our bulletin for this morning.

We invite clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners, in both English and Afrikaans, if possible, by following the News Inbox link on the South African Radio League web page. News items to be included in the bulletin should reach the news team no later than the Friday preceding the bulletin date.

You are welcome to join us every Sunday morning for the weekly radio programme, Amateur Radio Today at 10:00 CAT. The programme can be heard on VHF and UHF repeaters countrywide and on 7 082 kHz lower side-band by courtesy of Louis, ZS5LP. A rebroadcast by Andy, ZS6ADY, can be heard on Monday evenings at 19:30 CAT on 3 620 kHz.

We welcome your signal reports, comments, and suggestions; please send these by e-mail to [artoday@sarl.org.za](mailto:artoday@sarl.org.za).

You have listened to a news bulletin compiled by Andy Cairns, ZS6ADY, proof read by Dennis Green, ZS4BS and read by .....

From the news team, best wishes for the week ahead.